



District 2 Update

Volume 1, Issue 1

May 2001

Wear Issues Community Development Block Grant Funds

The Washington Street "Flight Alight" median beautification project was funded in part by District 2 CDBG.



The San Diego City Council has voted to approve the federal government's Community Development Block Grant allocations for the "Bricks and Mortar" and Social Services funding requests, which came before Council on May 1, 2001. Councilmember Byron Wear recommended allocations of \$1,625,882, a portion of which was committed previously to assist the Vietnam Veterans of San Diego in the acquisition of a homeless assistance center.

Commercial revitalization projects included an allocation of \$241,000 to the Ocean Beach Community Development Corporation to continue the North Ocean Beach Entryway Project, \$156 to the Ocean Beach Main Street, \$100,000 to Discover Pacific Beach, \$50,000 to the Little Italy Association, and \$24,000 to the University Heights Community Development Corporation, among others.

Programs benefiting job creation and those that address social needs in our communities include \$10,000 to the Black Contractors' Project Fresh State, \$20,000 to Winning Opportunities for Responsible Contractors (W.O.R.C.), \$10,000 for Second Chance/STRIVE, \$10,000 to the Union of Pan Asian Communities (UPAC), \$30,000 to the Alpha Project and funds for healthcare and homeless transitional housing.

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RGEC Presents "Shaping Our Future"

Several civic leaders, city mayors, councilmembers and interested citizens gathered on Saturday, April 27 to attend the Regional Governance Efficiency Commission's workshop, "Shaping Our Future," held at the California Center for the Arts in Escondido.

RGEC Chair Byron Wear, San Diego City Councilmember, organized the area's first open forum discussion on transforming re-

gional government. Dick Murphy, Mayor of San Diego, and Ken Blanchard, well-known business author, welcomed the participants.

Panelists included experts from Oregon, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Denver and from regional governance organizations.

The RGEC Commissioners include Ramona Finnilla, chair of SANDAG,

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*“Public Art should
provoke and stimulate
discussion in the
entire community.
Ultimately, Public
Art decisions should
be made by the
artists.”*
Councilmember
Byron Wear
Bravo, 2000

ArtWalk the picture of success

ArtWalk, celebrated its 17th anniversary with installations and activities lining six blocks of Kettner Boulevard and India Street. An eclectic mix of restaurants, bars and Italian bakeries also added flavor to the annual event.

Hundreds of artists awakened the senses of sight, sound, touch and taste while displaying their talents in a variety of mediums, including painting, sculpture, dance, poetry, drama, opera, film, photography, video, electronic imaging, architecture and design.

Alcohol-Free Zone Established by Council



In a move to bring Mission Beach’s alcohol policy in line with other public spaces, the City Council voted to begin an 18-month trial 24-hour alcohol-free zone beginning June 1. Alcohol-free access on the boardwalk is already in place.

The zone includes the area from the South jetty in Mission Beach to Felspar Street (one block north of Crystal Pier) in Pacific Beach.

Nearly 2,000 alcohol violations were cited in Mission Beach/Pacific Beach last year, with 9,982 police calls made to the area.

Alcohol is allowed in the evenings at North Pacific Beach, Tourmaline Beach, Ocean Beach, Fiesta Island, DeAnza Cove, Sail Bay, Crown Point, So. Shore, Vacation Isle and Ski Beach.

Meet Our New Staff Members

Two new staff members have been added to Council District 2 in order to serve community needs. They can be reached through the office phone number, 619-236-6622.

Don Giaquinto joined as our Constituent Services coordinator and has done an outstanding job helping citizens prompt the city to replace street lights, repair sidewalks, trim trees and solve any number of problems. He recently has recently been named the Community Representative for Uptown, Hillcrest, Mission Hills, University Heights and Old Town. Don has a number of years of experience working with the civic arena. Don also staffs the Select Committee on Government Efficiency & Fiscal Reform.

Joe Freedman comes to District 2 with a wealth of experience as an attorney in dealing with public concerns. Joe is the Community Representative for Point Loma, Midway and Liberty Station areas. He is also staff for the Natural Resources and Culture Committee.

Joe is fast becoming the expert on the North Bay Redevelopment effort, the Bay to Bay concept and the concerns of the Chamber of Commerce and CONVIS.



Don Giaquinto is the Council Representative for Old Town, Mission Hills and Uptown.



Joe Freedman is the Council Representative for Point Loma, Midway and Liberty Station (NTC).

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Julianne Nygaard, chair of North County Transit, Leon Williams, chair of MTDB, Paul Speer, Port Commissioner, and Greg Cox, San Diego County Supervisor. Additional Gubernatorial appointees include Mel Katz, Denise Ducheny, Paul Peterson, and William Jones. Ex-officio commissioners are Jim Bartell, a Santee councilmember and Lori Holt-Pfeiler, Mayor of Escondido.

San Diego County is made up of 18 cities and an unincorporated area, with a total County population of about 3 million. Our railroads,

mass transit and air facilities are woefully inadequate. The public is often frustrated by a lack of accountability for these areas of concerns. The mission of RGEC is to consider alternative options for the establishment of a regional authority over transportation and to submit to the California legislation a plan and draft legislation for a consolidation of regional mass transit and airport agencies.

The San Diego City Access Channel (Cox Cable Channel 17 and Time Warner Cable Channel 24) will be broadcasting the conference throughout the month. For broadcasts please look up www.sannet.gov/cabletv/channel.shtml or call (619) 533-4725.

“This is a new era that must move transit solutions forward. We can’t solve tomorrow’s problems with yesterday’s political structures.”
Councilmember Wear on regional planning.

Regional Governance Efficiency Commission Remaining Meeting Dates

5/18	9 am	Escondido
6/01	11 am	County of San Diego
6/15	9 am	CSU San Marcos
7/06	11 am	Alpine
7/20	9 am	UCSD
7/27	11 am	UCSD

Previous meetings have been held in Santee, at SDSU, Carlsbad, San Ysidro, and at SANDAG. Additional meetings may be added. For updated meeting information, go online to www.sdrgec.org/meetings.html.



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Charting a Course for the Future

**www.
sannet.gov/
city-council/
district-2**

The palms along Newport Avenue in Ocean Beach were planted after previous Community Development Block Grant funding from District 2. CDBG is allocated annually by each district.



The Children's Museum in downtown San Diego has a long-term commitment from Councilmember Wear for CDBG funding.

CDBG Funding Approved, continued from page 1

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Funds were also contributed to the Pacific Beach Lifeguard Stations, which needed significant improvements.

Budget

During the ongoing budget deliberations at the City Council, Councilmember Wear supported a proposal to allocate \$15 million to be used for Infrastructure improvements that can bring immediate relief to communities that are suffering from street light outages, broken sidewalks, potholes, and other infrastructure damage that is backlogged by the city departments. Ongoing public input is needed to set these budget priorities.

If you are able to address the city budget with public comment, please note this meeting schedule:

May 14: Fire & Life Safety, Water, Storm Water, Metropolitan Wastewater, Capital Improvements Program Overview, Transnet Overview, Park & Recreation, Library, City Attorney, Planning

May 21: Community & Economic Development, Environmental Services, General Services, Development Services

June 4—in a special evening meeting: Transportation, Stadium, Special Projects, TOT, and Engineering

June 11: City Auditor and Comptroller, City Clerk, City Manager, Citywide Program Expenditures, Financial Management, Gas Tax, Governmental Relations, Human Resources, Information Technology and Communications, Personnel, Real Estate Assets, Retirement, Other Budget Items, Budget Issues and Policies.